

LISTING OF CLAIMS

1. **(currently amended)** An analyzer system for use with at least two instruments, comprising :
 - a vertical guide ; [[,]]
 - an instrument holder constrained to move along the vertical guide and ~~designed~~ to hold ~~the at least two instruments~~ in a downwardly-directed manner; ~~which are attached to the instrument holder at predetermined positions so as to be directed downwards,~~
 - at least one washing device for the instruments, comprising a ~~the washing device~~ ~~having at least one~~ jet orifice and a supply conduit for a wash fluid , the ~~at least one~~ jet orifice being designed to spray the wash fluid at the instruments;
 - wherein the washing device comprises a ~~at least one~~ wash ring surrounding the instruments, the washing device being separate from and movable in relation to the instrument holder, and the ~~at least one~~ jet orifice being aimed in an inward radial direction of the ~~at least one~~ wash ring..
2. **(original)** The analyzer system of claim 1, wherein the washing device comprises a complete, closed wash ring surrounding the instruments over an angle of 360°.
3. **(original)** The analyzer system of claim 1, wherein the washing device is constrained for guided movement along the vertical guide
4. **(original)** The analyzer system of claim 1, wherein the washing device is disposed vertically below the instrument holder.
5. **(currently amended)** The analyzer system of claim 1, wherein ~~comprising~~ at least two jet orifices are distributed over an internal circumference of the ~~at least one~~ wash ring.

6. **(original)** The analyzer system of claim 5, wherein the jet orifices are disposed at substantially equal angular intervals.
7. **(original)** The analyzer system of claim 5, wherein the jet orifices are disposed substantially at diametrically opposed locations.
8. **(original)** The analyzer system of claim 5, wherein the jet orifices are disposed at angular intervals of at least 10° and less than 180°.
9. **(original)** The analyzer system of claim 5, wherein the jet orifices are disposed at angular intervals of 15° to 20°.
10. **(currently amended)** The analyzer system of claim 1, wherein ~~the washing device has at least one a wash ring with at least one~~ the jet orifice is disposed on a circumference of larger diameter than an internal opening width of the wash ring.
11. **(original)** The analyzer system of claim 1, wherein the washing device has at least one wash ring with a common opening for all of the instruments.
12. **(currently amended)** The analyzer system of claim 1, wherein the ~~at least one~~ orifice has a diameter of at least 0.3 mm.
13. **(currently amended)** The analyzer system of claim 12, wherein the ~~at least one~~ orifice has a diameter of at least 0.5 mm.
14. **(currently amended)** The analyzer system of claim 13, wherein the ~~at least one~~ orifice has a diameter of 0.3 to 0.8 mm.
15. **(currently amended)** The analyzer system of claim 1, wherein the ~~washing device has at least one wash ring with at least one~~ jet orifice is aimed at a predetermined downward angle.

16. **(original)** The analyzer system of claim 15, wherein the predetermined downward angle is substantially between 15° and 40°.

17. **(original)** The analyzer system of claim 16, wherein the predetermined downward angle is substantially between 20° and 30°.

18. **(currently amended)** The analyzer system of claim 1, wherein the ~~at least one~~ wash ring has a distributor channel for the wash fluid extending along a perimeter of said wash ring.

19. **(currently amended)** The analyzer system of claim 1, wherein the ~~at least one~~ jet orifice has an orifice cross-section and the distributor channel has a channel cross-section that is larger than the orifice cross-section.

20. **(original)** The analyzer system of claim 19, wherein the channel cross-section is at least five times as large as the orifice cross-section.

21. **(original)** The analyzer system of claim 20, wherein the channel cross-section is ten to fifty times as large as the orifice cross-section.

22. **(original)** The analyzer system of claim 1, wherein the washing device has at least two rows of jet orifices arranged one below the other.

23. **(original)** The analyzer system of claim 22, wherein the rows of jet orifices are arranged on different wash rings.

24. **(original)** The analyzer system of claim 23, wherein the washing device comprises wash rings that are movable in relation to each other.

25. **(original)** The analyzer system of claim 1, wherein the supply conduit comprises a supply channel extending at least partially in parallel with the vertical guide.

26. **(original)** The analyzer system of claim 23, further comprising a centering device interposed between the instrument holder and the washing device.

27. **(original)** The analyzer system of claim 1, further comprising a drive source that moves the instrument holder along the vertical guide.

28. **(original)** The analyzer system of claim 27, wherein the drive source also moves the washing device along the vertical guide.

29. **(currently amended)** The analyzer system of claim 27, further comprising ~~at least one~~ a take-along constraint allowing a limited range of relative movement between the instrument holder and the washing device.

Claims 30-34. **(cancelled)**